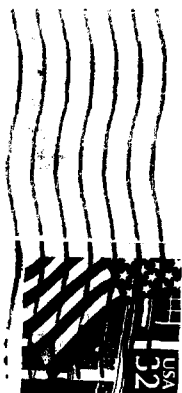




Ms. Diane A. Degen
62 Yale Pl.
Rockville Centre, NY 11570-2836



MAR 19 1991

MAILED

Chairman Reed Hundt & FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

March 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS DOCKET NO. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and Rockville Centre PTA to voice my opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Major surveys released this fall which demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of programs were conducted by the National PTA, *U.S. News and World Report*, and Media Studies Center/Roper. Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based on content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. Instead, we request the following:

- That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs such as V (for violence), S (for sexual depiction and nudity) and L (for language);
- That the FCC require a V-Chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system;
- That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course of a program;
- That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and that it include parents, and
- That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of the parents.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issue so important to children and families.

Sincerely,

Deane A. Rieger

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March 16, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W. , Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and myself. I am the parent of 4 children. I am the president of the Elementary PTA, vice-president of the Middle School PTA, and have two children in High School. I would like to voice my opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Violent, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. My own personal survey indicates parents want to make TV choices for their children based on the content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. Instead, I suggest the following:

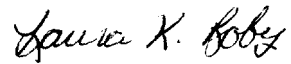
- o That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs such as V (for violence), S (for sexual depiction and nudity) and L (for language);
- o That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system;
- o That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course program;
- o That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and that it include parents; and
- o That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issues so important to children and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura K. Robey".

Laura K. Robey
Silver Spring, Md.

DeeDee Lyons
5837 Almont Circle
Kettering, Ohio 45440

March 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:
RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the Kettering PTA Council to voice our opposition to the V-Chip rating as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating system does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make informed decisions on TV programming for their children. As a parent, and working in an elementary school, I feel that parents are finding that any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless. Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based on content information about the program.

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The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. We do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry's rating system.

I would like to request the following for our parents:

~ That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Instead we would like to see a rating system which includes information such as "V" for violence, "S" for sexual depiction and "N" for nudity, and "L" for language.

~ That the FCC require a V-chip board broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system.

~ That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the program.

Please give parents the opportunity to determine if the rating system chosen by the FCC meets their needs.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue which is so important to children and so many families.

Sincerely,
Rochelle Byron, PTA President of Kettering PTA Council

March 11, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAR 19 1997
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

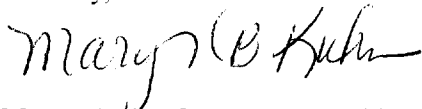
After reviewing the current voluntary TV program rating system in use, I am quite concerned about its effectiveness. The shows I have watched with my 7 year old which were rated as appropriate for her age contained both profanity and sexually explicit scenes. I am writing to you as a concerned citizen and on behalf of the Garrett Elementary PTA and the National PTA to voice our opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Major surveys released this fall demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about the content of programs. **Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based on content information about the program.** Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC is required by law to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. We do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. Instead, we request the following:

- That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs such as a V (for violence), S (for sexual depiction and nudity) and L (for language);
- That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system;
- That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course of a program;
- That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and that it include parents; and
- That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issue so important to children and families.

Sincerely,



Mary B. Kuhn, Garrett PTA President
1421 Eagles Way Court
Hazelwood, MO 63042
(314)895-4921

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March 10, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt and FCC Commissioners
c/o Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAR 11 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RE: CS Docket No. 97-55, FCC 97-34

I am writing on behalf of the National PTA and the local Van Buren Middle School PTA to voice my opposition to the v-chip rating system as presented by Jack Valenti, Chair of the TV Rating Implementation Group, on January 17, 1997. The rating symbol on the TV screen does not provide sufficient content information so that parents can make decisions about what is appropriate TV programming for their children. Major surveys released this fall which demonstrate overwhelming parent preference for a rating system that gives parents information about Studies Center/Roper. Parents do not want the TV industry to interpret what is best for their children. Parents want to make those choices themselves based on content information about the program. Any rating system without content descriptions on the screen and publicized in periodicals that carry TV scheduling is useless.

The FCC, by law, is required to determine whether the industry's rating system has met statutory requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I do not believe this system does so and ask that the FCC not approve the industry rating system. Instead, we request the following:

That under no circumstances should the FCC approve the industry's rating system. Further, the FCC should accept no rating system that does not include content information about programs such as V (for violence), S (for sexual depiction and nudity) and L (for language);

That the FCC require a V-chip band broad enough that would allow parents to receive more than one rating system;

That the rating icon on the TV screen be made larger, more prominently placed on the screen, and appear more frequently during the course of a program;

That the rating board be independent of the industry and the FCC and that it include parents; and

That any rating system approved by the FCC be evaluated by independent research to determine if it meets the needs of parents.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on an issue so important to children and families.

Sincerely,

Gilbert W. Walker

Van Buren, Arkansas

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